

First named inventor: Radominski  
Serial no. 10/743,603  
Filed 12/21/2003  
Attorney docket no. 200311607-1

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In the drawings

Please substitute the enclosed drawing sheet one (1) of nine (9), marked "replacement sheet" for the drawing sheet one (1) of nine (9) originally filed with the patent application.

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### REMARKS

#### Minor informalities

In the abstract, the Examiner indicated that "paths are" in the second line from the bottom should read "path is." Applicant has made this correction.

In the drawings, in FIG. 1, the host device should be referenced by number 104, not 100. Applicant has submitted a substitute drawing sheet making this correction.

In the claims, in claim 14, line 5, the phrase "one a" should be replaced with "the". Applicant has amended claim 14 in this respect.

#### Claim rejections under 35 USC 112

Claims 3-4, 7, 18, 23, and 29-61 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant has amended these claims to overcome indefiniteness as is now particularly described.

Claim 3 has been objected to because of the phrase "secondary electrons," since no primary electrons are recited, and because the phrase "the focused beam" has no antecedent basis. Applicant has amended the phrase "secondary electrons" to simply read "electrons," and has amended the phrase "the focused beam" to instead read "a focused beam."

Claims 4 and 7 have been objected to because the phrase "the focused beam" does not have antecedent basis. The phrase has been amended in both claims to instead read "a focused beam."

Claims 18, 23, 29-30, 39-41, 45-46, 51, 55, and 58 have been objected to because of the phrase "secondary electrons," since no primary electrons are recited. Applicant has amended this phrase to simply read "electrons" in each of these claims.

Claim 51 has been objected to because of the indefinite term "therefrom." Applicant has amended claim 51 to remove this term.

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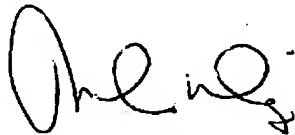
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Conclusion

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the pending claims in condition for allowance, and request that they so be allowed. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Mike Dryja, Applicants' Attorney, at 425-427-5094, so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

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Date

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